



Illustration by John H. Rumely,  
From 'Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest'

## ***SENECIO PAUCIFLORUS*** **FEW-FLOWERED BUTTERWEED**

Few-flowered Butterweed is a glabrous perennial with stems that are 15-40 cm high and arising from a simple or branched rootcrown with fibrous roots. The basal leaves are 3-10 cm long and have long petioles and thick, spade-shaped blades with coarsely toothed margins. The alternate stem leaves, some with a pair of basal lobes, become smaller and sessile upward. Usually, 2-6 erect flower heads are borne in a crowded, terminal inflorescence. Each flower head has a single series of reddish-purple, narrow, pointed involucre bracts that are 6-8 mm long. Disk flowers are orange to reddish. Rays are inconspicuous or lacking. The achene has a pappus of bristles at its summit. Flowering in June.

Distinguished from *SENECIO DEBILIS* and *S. INDECORUS* in that that it does not have deeply lobed lower leaves; generally has fewer flower heads of 6 or less, and is generally found at higher elevations. A technical key is needed for positive identification.